

Our Purpose

To examine Arizona Special Education State Board 401 rules, to propose rules that are clear, instructive, and aligned to the IDEA, and to provide guidance for implementation.

Core Team

Kristina Blackledge
Advocate & SEAP Member

Angela Denning
Arizona Department of Education
Deputy Associate Superintendent

Craig Carter
Director of Special Services
Washington Elem School District

Mollie Casson
ESS Director, Kingman Unified

Jan Cawthorne
Executive Director of Special
Education, Mesa Public Schools

Wendy Collison
Director of Special Education
Glendale Union High School District

Elizabeth Conran, Chief Academic
Officer, The Menta Group

Sarah Gamble
Director of Special Education
Primavera Online High School

Kristen Hartsuff
Director of Special Education
Glendale Elementary School District

Lorrane McPherson
Treasurer, AZCEC

Kimberly Peaslee,
Parent & Chairperson of CAC & SEAP
Member

Heidi Sinkovic
Director of ESS, The Leona Group

Chris Tiffany, Raising Special Kids &
SEAP Member

Our Group Norms

- We engage in active listening
- We seek to understand
- We strive for a collective impact
- We honor the communication plan
- We support working for the greater good
- Our communication is timely and accurate
- We use rubrics to evaluate our work
- We need to learn and “unlearn”
- Reflection is critical to our success

Consensus--A two tiered approach:

The Core Team will work toward unanimous consensus on every issue. If not an unanimous consensus the group will use a supermajority vote (11/13).

Rule Committee – Core Team

August 18, 2014 Communiqué

Core Team Attendees: Sarah Gamble, Beth Conran, Kim Peaslee, Craig Carter, Mollie Casson, Christopher Tiffany, Lorrane McPherson, Jan Cawthorne, Kristina Blackledge, Wendy Collison, Heidi Sinkovic, Kristin Hartsuff

ADE Support Staff: Angela Denning, William McQueary, Maura Mall, Cindy Bolewski, Lisa Aaroe, Jin Jiu Park

Meeting Location: ADE on Osborn

You’ve got to think about big things while you’re doing small things, so that all the small things go in the right direction.

GOAL for Today: Present the Child Find and Evaluation draft documents to the large group. Review feedback from the large group meeting. Discuss the organization and development of the committee presentation at the September Director’s Institute.

What we did:

- We reviewed the changes made to the Child Find document presented today based on feedback from the field that provided clarity by combining sub bullets and reordering two steps. No other information was added or deleted from the previously distributed version.
- From 10:00 am to noon we met with our Key Advisors, Key Participants, and other interested persons to discuss and receive feedback on the Child Find and Evaluation work that has been done to this point. Feedback regarding the upcoming areas of Eligibility and the IEP was provided.
- We discussed the difference and need to clarify between evaluation and assessment. Evaluation to be used in the eligibility process and assessment to be used for programming development and concerns.
- We reviewed feedback from the field from today’s meeting the ESS Inbox. The information was categorized by document and incorporated into the draft documents and guidance document notes as the comments provided further clarification.

What we learned.

- We learned that we need to do outreach as a committee to parent groups to assist with understanding the process and to gather their feedback.
- We decided to include other options considered during the committee meeting discussions that will provide additional transparency to the process.
- We learned there is little feedback coming through the ESS Inbox and that a survey link with targeted questions for feedback be sent to the constituents group may provide better information. Heidi Sinkovic will head this project and questions will be recorded in the Communiqué.
- We learned that there is a need for future presentations to further clarify and define “informed consent” and consider a metaphor of taking a written request for a specific procedure to a medical doctor & expecting follow through without doctor’s process and input.

What other options we considered:

- We considered giving more than 30 days notice to Key Participants and Advisors of the large group meetings per feedback but decided the committee needed completed draft processes to present. Setting the large group meetings too far in advance could result in providing incomplete information that would have to be revisited again.
- We considered there may be a need for future presentations to further clarify and define “informed consent” by introducing a metaphor of taking a written request for a specific procedure to a medical doctor & expecting follow through without doctor’s process and input.

Notes:

Rule Making Core Committee

August 18, 2014 Communiqué

What we accomplished.

- We incorporated all the feedback relative to Child Find and Evaluation draft documents so the final draft can be established at the next meeting.
- We determined that a flow chart of the evaluation process will be developed similar to Ohio's.
- We determined we will utilize the today's presentation process at Director's Institute.
- We set the agenda for the next meeting, September 12, 2014 to finish work on Initial Evaluation, and Reevaluation, and Eligibility.
- Meeting times will be 8:00-2:00 pm and the dates are October 3, October 20, November 14, Tuesday December 2 and December 15.

Next Steps:

- Review the research on SLD eligibility brought to the committee.
- We need to have the following information available at the next meeting: OSEP document on FBAs.
- Complete a draft of additional components for evaluation e.g. FBA, IEE
- Questions for feedback from the field – a list of questions to elicit feedback will be gathered by Heidi. Committee members will send their suggestions to the group.

We Want to Hear from You!

Please send your comments to AZBoardRuleCommitteeInBox@azed.gov. We look forward to hearing from the community at large, Key Advisors and Extended Partners on our work to date and future agenda items. These documents along with key documents are posted on the Director's Corner at:

<http://www.azed.gov/special-education/category/directors-corner/>.

Notes: